(c) to (e) Do not arise.

Gadhuli-Santalpur road in Gujarat

1207. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR:
SHRI VIJAYKUMAR RUPANI:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amount of Rs. 127.16 crores has been considered/approved by the Central Government for the purpose of construction/improvement of Gadhuli- Santalpur road in Gujarat;

(b) if so, by when the sanctioned amount would be released to Gujarat; and

(c) if not, the present status and the time by when the proposal of the State Government of Gujarat would be finally considered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) This Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways in the country. The Gadhuli - Santalpur road is not a National Highway. The proposal of State Government of Rs. 127.16 crore for Gadhuli - Santalpur road was returned to State Government for modification. The revised proposal amounting to Rs. 165.83 crore has since been received and is under consideration with the Government.

ASSOCHAM survey on road accidents

1208. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. MABEL REBELLO:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the number of deaths in road accidents has exceeded four lakhs by the end of 2007 and it has increased from 40,000 in 1986 to 85,000 by 2001 and by 2010, in the absence of suitable mechanism, it could multiply manifold, as per a survey conducted by ASSOCHAM;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the above chamber has suggested constitution of a Bureau to address this issue;

(d) whether by 2010 the deaths through road accidents could multiply by at least one and a half times as vehicular traffic is witnessing an average annual growth of between 18 to 20 per cent in Chennai and in case of Delhi the increase is estimated around 30 per cent; and

(e) if so, the steps and measures Government proposes to take to check increase of accidents in the country and to what extent Government has been able to reduce accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) The figures on road accidents as per the data provided by the States and Union Territories from the year 1986 to year 2006 are as under:-

Year	No. of Road Accidents (in thousands)	No. of Persons Killed (In thousands)
1986	215.5	40
1987	234	44.4
1988	246.7	46.6
1989	270	50.7
1990	282.6	54.1
1991	295.1	56.2
1992	275.5	60.1
1993	284.6	60.3
1994	325.8	64.4
1995	351.9	70.7
1996	371.2	74.6
1997	373.6	77
1998	385	76.9
1999	386.4	81.9
2000	391.4	78.9
2001	405.6	80.8
2002	407.5	84.6
2003	406.7	86
2004	429.9	92.6
2005	439.2	94.9
2006	460.9	105.7

(c) ASSOCHAM has reportedly conducted a study/survey and suggested setting up of **Injury Surveillance Bureau** (ISB) with a special budget for injury prevention by National Capital Government of Delhi. This Department, however, has not received any communication either from ASSOCHAM or from Government of NCT of Delhi in this regard.

(d) Deaths attributed to road accidents depend on a host of factors, which amongst other include number of motor vehicles, road length, road geometry, location, time of occurrence, human and behavioral factors, enforcement of traffic regulations etc. and their interplay and not due to a single factor alone. The total no. of Registered Motor Vehicles in the cities of Chennai and NCT of Delhi is as below:

Years	Chennai City	NCT of Delhi
2000-01	1256898	3634466
2001-02	1355550	3698846
2002-03	1894819	3970870
2003-04	2014776	4236675
2004-05	2167406	4186817
2005-06	2338472	4487412
2006-07	2517759	4854264

As may be seen from the above table, annual average growth in the number of motor vehicles in the cities of Chennai and NCT of Delhi is 16.72 per cent and 5.59 per cent respectively.

(e) The safety of road users is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government. However, this department has taken several steps to improve road safety for road users which are as under:

(i) Road safety is an integral part of road design at the planning stage for National Highways/Expressways.

(ii) Various steps to enhance road safety such as road furniture, road markings/road signs, introduction of Highway Traffic Management System using Intelligent Transport System, enhancement of discipline among contractors during construction, road safety audit on selected stretches, have been undertaken by National Highways Authority of India.

(iii) Refresher training to heavy motor vehicle drivers in the unorganized sector being implemented by the Department since 1997-98 under plan activities.

(iv) Involvement of NGOs for road safety activities by Department of Road Transport and Highways and National Highways Authority of India.

(v) Setting up of driving training school in the country.

(vi) Publicity campaign on road safety awareness both through the audio-visual and print media.

(vii) Institution of National Award for voluntary organizations/individual for outstanding work in the field of road safety.

(viii) Tightening of safety standards of vehicles.

(ix) Providing cranes and ambulances to various State Governments/NGOs under National Highway accident Relief Service Scheme. National Highways Authority of India also provides ambulances at a distance of 50 Km. on each of its completed stretches of National Highways under its operation and maintenance contracts.

(x) Widening and improvements of National Highways from 2 lanes to 4 lanes and 4 lanes to 6 lanes etc.

Maintenance of under construction NHs

†1209. SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any explicit policy is being formulated by Government in regard to maintenance of four-lane roads being constructed by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) during the construction period;

(b) whether the Stretch of National Highway number-76 falling under Udaipur urban area is being maintained by NHAI; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir. During the construction period, the maintenance of the existing roads is being done by the civil contractor/concessionaire engaged for four laning works for which adequate provisions are made in the Concession Agreements/ Maintenance Contracts.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Bridge on NH 7 near Nagpur

1210. SHRI RAHUL BAJAJ:
SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) by when the rail-over-bridge at Butibori, near Nagpur on NH 7 would be completed; and

(b) the reasons for an inordinate delay in completion of this bridge?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.